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## NOTES AND NEWS

FOXTAIL PINE ON SIRRETTA PEAK, CALIFORNIA.—The distribution of the Foxtail Pine, *Pinus balfouriana* Grev. & Balf. in California is disjunct and confined to two high elevation areas about 300 miles apart. The northern population is in the Klamath Mountains of northwestern California from Lake Mountain (elev. 6,903 ft., 41° 44.9'N. latitude and 123° 7.9'W. longitude) to South Yolla Bolly Mountains (elev. 8,092 ft.; 40° 2.2'N. latitude and 122° 51.2'W. longitude). The southern population is about 300 air miles south of the South Yolla Bolly Mountains in the southern Sierra Nevada (Critchfield, W. B., 1966. Geographic distribution of the pines of the world. U. S. D. A. Misc. Publ. 991). The northern extent of the southern population is uncertain, but specimens were collected by Peter Raven on the steep south wall of the South Fork of the Kings River about one mile north of Bench Lake (ca. 9,900 ft. at 36° 57.7'N. latitude and 118° 27.1'W. longitude). The southern-most known locality was considered previously to be Olancha Peak (elev. 12,135 ft.; 36° 15'54" N. lat. and 118° 7'6" W. longitude).

On August 13, 1967 we encountered foxtail pine on Sirretta Peak (elev. 9,977 ft.; 35° 55.4' N. latitude and 118° 19.9' W. longitude). Several specimens were collected and are presently at the herbarium of Humboldt State College, Arcata, California. The above locality is approximately nine miles north of the Tulare-Kern County line. This area was examined for the foxtail pine on the information of its possible occurrence there from Victor Aubin of Kernville, California. Only the Sirretta Peak area and about two miles of the ridge that is oriented in a NW-SE direction were explored.

Ten trees were measured with both diameters and heights being taken. The largest tree measured 54.5 inches in diameter breast high, and 73 ft. in height. A few other tree measurements were as follows: 25.8 inches—53 ft., 28.3 inches—70 ft., 17.3 inches—49 ft., 5.9 inches—20 ft.

All the measured foxtail pines were at elevations ranging from about 8,970 to 9,780 ft., either on the west-facing slope or on the NW-SW ridge of Sirretta Peak.

Two other five-leaved pine associates were *Pinus flexilis* and *P. monticola*. Also present were two other pines, namely *P. jeffreyi* and *P. murrayana*. Another conifer present was *Abies magnifica* var. *shastensis*. The associated shrubs on the shallow decomposing granitic soils were *Castanopsis sempervirens*, *Arctostaphylos patula*, and *Spiraea* sp. Foxtail pine apparently was of higher density on north-facing slopes and extended to lower elevations on the west-facing slope of the ridge that was sampled.—H. THOMAS HARVEY, Department of Biological Sciences, San Jose State College, San Jose 95114, and RONALD J. MASTROGIUSEPPE, Arcata 95521.